and Central Government Ministries to adopt suitable technical, legal, fiscal and administrative measures to achieve the target.

Joint Forest Management Programme

†1130. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce Joint Forest Management Programme for conservation and growth of the forests in the country;

(b) if so, whether any targets have also been set therefor; and

(c) if so, the details of the targets and the total amount likely to be spent to achieve these targets?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a)The Joint Forest Management (JFM) Programme is already under implementation in the country since 1990 with the Joint Forest Management Resolution adopted by Government. All the States have also adopted the resolution to this affect and are implementing this programme in their respective States. As on 10.9.2003, a total 84632 Joint Forest Management Committees have been formed in various States and 17.33 million ha. forest area ha. been covered under the Joint Forest Management Programme, so far.

(b) and (c)Though no specific targets have been fixed but the States Governments have been advised to create Joint Forest Management Committees in all the remaining villages in the State. Under the National Afforestation Programme of Government, a provision of Rs. 1140 crore has been kept for the Tenth Five Year Plan for implementing the afforestation activities with the active involvement of JFM Committees through the mechanism of Forest Development Agencies (FDAs). FDAs are the federation of the JFM Committees.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.